



BOB RILEY
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALABAMA
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
AND MENTAL RETARDATION**
RSA UNION BUILDING
100 N. UNION STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 301410
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-1410



JOHN M. HOUSTON
COMMISSIONER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2008

Contact: Office of Public Relations
334.242.3417

**ALABAMA TO HOST THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE
ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE DIRECTORS (NASADAD)
ANNUAL MEETING**

MONTGOMERY – The 2008 National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) Annual Meeting will be held in downtown Montgomery at the Renaissance Hotel and Spa from June 5-8, 2008. Alabama volunteered to host the meeting two years ago, and planning for the meeting has been intense during the last six months. Although Alabama has been a member state for many years, this will be the first year it will host the meeting.

The NASADAD Annual Meeting is the only national gathering of the members of NASADAD, the National Prevention Network (NPN) and the National Treatment Network (NTN). NASADAD's basic purpose is to foster and support the development of effective alcohol and other drug abuse prevention and treatment programs throughout every state. It offers a unique opportunity for professionals to meet and learn from the leaders in the field of alcohol, drug and substance abuse fields. In addition to conducting the business of the association, the annual meeting also incorporates presentations from national experts regarding various substance abuse topics.

Kent Hunt, Associate Commissioner for the Substance Abuse Services Division at the department, said, "Alabama is proud to host the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) Annual Meeting for the first time. National experts will be in Montgomery to present on this year's theme "Prevention and Treatment Services in Support of Recovery Oriented Systems of Care". Of course, we hope everyone enjoys their visit to Montgomery. Many of the estimated three hundred participants have never stayed in Alabama although most say they have passed through."

This year, staff from the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation will be presenting two workshops at the annual meeting. These presentations will focus on Alabama's advocacy activities, and the drug court partnership with the Administrative Office of the Courts. In addition, some members

will visit the L.I.F.E. Tech Transitional Center in Wetumpka, which is a partnership between the Department, the Board of Pardons and Paroles, Vocational Rehabilitation and Post Secondary Education.

RESOURCES

Information about the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) can be found by visiting its Web site at <http://www.nasadad.org/>.

Information on substance abuse services in the state of Alabama can be obtained by contacting the DMH/MR Substance Abuse Service Division at (334)242-3961 or by going to the department's Web site at www.mh.alabama.gov.